

Torrance Herald

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THE HERALD'S PLATFORM FOR TORRANCE

- 1—Ornamental Lighting System. 2—Interchange of Freight Between P. E. and Santa Fe. 3—Western Avenue Bus Line. 4—Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway. 5—New School North of Carson St. 6—Aviation Field. 7—Co-operation of All Torrance People, Firms, Industries and Other Agencies, to Induce Torrance Workmen to Live in Torrance. 8—Adoption and carrying out of a well-conceived city plan to guide the growth and development of Torrance. 9—The conduct of All Local Affairs in a spirit of Neighborly Friendliness and Constructive Co-operation to the End That the Peace and Prosperity of All May Be Encouraged by an Alert Civic Consciousness and Patriotism.

ARSON RING CAUGHT!

With the sentencing in November of the band of crooked merchants and professional firebugs that confessed to setting fire to a large warehouse in New York City, one of the most spectacular arson cases in the country has just been satisfactorily closed.

Judge Goddard, in the United States District Court, meted out sentences of six and eight years in Atlanta Federal Prison, with a corresponding heavy fine to the principals responsible for robbing the insurance companies of large sums of money in arson fires. All of those guilty threw themselves upon the mercy of the court.

Judge Goddard, speaking to United States Attorney Tuttle after the sentences had been imposed, said:

"Mr. Tuttle, it is quite proper for the court to state that through the very efficient handling of this case by yourself and your assistants and the gentlemen who have been associated with you here, the Fire Department of the City of New York, the Fire Commissioner and the Fire Marshal, you have succeeded without any trial, in ridding this community of men who are a real menace to life and property of this city."

Similar good work should be encouraged. Make this country too "hot" to hold an arsonist. He is one of the lowest criminals in the list and deserves no public sympathy.

CANADIAN JUSTICE

Seventy-eight little children lost their lives last January in a fire and panic in a Montreal theatre. On October 31st the proprietor of the theater was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary, and two employees of the theater were sentenced to a year in jail, in connection with the catastrophe.

There have been few, if any, convictions in connection with similar tragedies this side of the boundary.

Quick punishment for criminal fires is one of the surest ways to reduce fire loss and death.

BALTIMORE AND CALIFORNIA

For two years the California Taxpayers' Association has been functioning in the State of California. Its influence has been widespread. Permeator and propagator of economy-mindedness, the organization has aroused thinking taxpayers to a fuller understanding and appreciation of the magnitude of their tax problems. Through its tax counseling service, communities have been enabled to establish cordial co-operation between taxpayers and public officials. With many investigations completed, the research department has gained a nationwide reputation for accuracy, thoroughness, and non-partisanship in its scientific studies of the costs of government. Slowly but surely the taxpayers of California are

coming to see that the only way out for them is to study the tax question and to demand a seat at the council table.

It is an inspiration to other communities to see what the California Taxpayers' Association has done, and read of the results which the city of Baltimore, Maryland, has secured at the hands of business men appointed by the mayor to work out an efficiency and economy program.

These two examples prove that results can be secured when politics is set aside and business principles adopted.

Touring California

Travel Notes of Interest and Western Highway Information Furnished by the National Automobile Club

"Following a leader" is one of the best ways of avoiding fatigue on a long tour when many hours at a stretch are passed behind the wheel, according to L. G. Evans, Southern California service manager of the National Automobile Club. By "following the leader" is meant to choose some driver familiar with the road and local conditions and to keep close enough behind to observe and follow his actions.

"In this manner," said Evans yesterday, "it is possible for a driver from outside of the state to avoid the pitfalls into which a strange driver sometimes falls. For instance, he may not be familiar with California laws and traffic regulations."

"If he picks out a driver to follow who from all indications is a careful driver and is following out the directions on the signs along the highway, the stranger can be sure that by "following the leader" he will observe the regulations without conscious effort."

"Naturally, picking the right driver is probably the most difficult part of the whole matter, but that undoubtedly will come with practice. The right kind of leader may be best determined by following a driver for a mile or so to observe his driving habits. If they are good and his speed within the legal limits it will be safe to follow him and let him be the guide and set the pace."

"Being a good driver the man ahead will fit his driving to the conditions of the road. He will be watchful around curves and by his actions will give ample indications when bad road and driving conditions may be expected."

"By following such a driver the driver of the trailing machine will not have to pay as close attention to warning signs and other driving directions on the signposts beside the road. The driver ahead will do this for him and give him ample indication, so that the trailer will be enabled to conform to the leader."

"There are undoubtedly many advantages from following this course, especially if one follows a car bearing the license plate of the state in which one is driving at the time. I have talked with many tourists who have followed such a course, and all agree that it is one of the best ways they have ever found to keep out of trouble in strange states."

Motorists are experiencing no difficulty in driving over the Redwood Highway between Eureka and Crescent City, according to the Touring Department of the National Automobile Club.

Practically all construction work between Orick and the county line has ceased, and all efforts are now being directed towards keeping the road open and in passable condition. It is expected that the Highway Commission will be able to keep this road open all winter.

Cajon Pass, paved highway, leading northwest from San Bernardino to Victorville, and traveled daily by hundreds of motorists has a very interesting history, unknown to many. Its name is of Spanish origin, meaning "gate of the Big Box," and the pass is a great gap in the Sierra's backbone, following a natural line of cleavage between the San Bernardino Range and the Sierra Madre, and drained by Cajon creek and its tributaries, flowing east and south to the great coastal plain.

Historically, Cajon Pass was for nearly a century, the chief southwestern gateway of overland travel to the coast. In March, 1776, Padre Francisco Garcés, the famous missionary priest, crossed from the desert to the San Bernardino plain, either through the pass itself or through some closely adjacent passage, perhaps Holdreth's Valley. In 1826, it was used by Jedediah S. Smith, first United States citizen to enter California overland.

In 1831, William Wolfskill, later of Los Angeles, brought through Cajon Pass the first pack train from Santa Fe, laden with Mexican goods, thus giving rise to the name of "Spanish Trail." Twenty years later it became the "Mormon Trail" when in 1851 the first detachment of colonists from Salt Lake came to found San Bernardino.

It was through Cajon Pass that Lieutenant Whipple led his exploring party in 1849.

The following report of road conditions between Yuma, Arizona, and Blythe, California, via Midway Well is supplied by the Touring Department of the National Automobile Club: A rough and cross-washed desert road prevails throughout, and sections of heavy drift sand will be encountered near Ogilby. Water may be obtained at Midway Well but at no other intermediate points. This route is only advisable for experienced desert drivers.

The road from Niland to Yuma via Glamis, sixty miles, is a very rough desert road and not advisable at this time.

Construction work is still under way between El Toro Road and a point approximately six miles north of San Juan Capistrano. It is necessary to travel along side of the old highway for about five miles but good speed can be maintained the entire distance. Half of the new paving for about two miles is now open for travel. A one-way control is in effect, around the concrete mixer during working hours.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Torrance did at a regular meeting of said council, held on the 6th day of September, 1927, pass a Resolution of Intention No. 338 to order the following work to be done and improvement to be made, within said city, to-wit: the closing up, vacating and abandoning of that portion of a street described as follows:

That portion of Lot S-3, Torrance Tract, as recorded in Map Book 22, Pages 94 and 95, Los Angeles County Records, described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the Easterly line of said Lot S-3, said point being North 0°, 34', 10" West 802.02 feet from the Northerly line of Carson street; thence North 0°, 34' 10" West on a prolongation of the Easterly line of Block 110, Torrance Tract, to a point in the Easterly line of said Lot S-3; thence Northwesterly, Easterly and Southwesterly along the Easterly, Northerly and Easterly lines of said Lot S-3, to point of beginning.

And said City Council has declared that the district of lands to be affected and benefited by the work and improvement and to be assessed to pay the damages, costs and expenses thereof, is the following described property: all of Block 110, of Torrance Tract, above mentioned.

All of the herein proposed work shall be done in pursuance of an act of the legislature of the State of California approved March 6, 1889, being entitled "An Act to provide for laying out, opening, extending, widening, straightening, or closing up in whole or in part, any street, square, lane, alley, court or place within municipalities, and to condemn and acquire any and all land and property necessary or convenient for that purpose," and under all acts supplementary thereto and amendatory thereof.

For a more particular description of said improvement, reference is hereby made to said Resolution of Intention No. 338, on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Dated September 8, 1927. WM. GASCOIGNE, Street Superintendent.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP

That I, Andrew J. Moore, having sold my entire half interest in the La Plante Fountain Lunch, and Confectionery at 1405 Sartori avenue, Torrance, to my former partner, George LaPlante; the aforesaid George LaPlante assuming all bills and other indebtedness against said business during the life of our partnership; therefore, I will not be responsible for any obligations contracted during the period of said partnership or thereafter.

ANDREW J. MOORE, Dated, December 1, 1927.

LOCAL NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. Stirling of San Pedro were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dean of 2623 street.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Reed and family of Cypress street spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Reed of San Pedro.

Mrs. Frank Butler and Mrs. Tim Terrell of Weston street were guests Monday of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Woods of Hollywood.

1928

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